Returned to
Wm Grant
alpha Lighthouse
Union St.
Kirkintilloch

SPENCE'S

STRANGERS' GUIDE

to

TOWN and PALACE.

"Describe the Borough—through our idle tribe
May love description, can we so describe,
That you shall fairly street and buildings trace,
And all that gives distinction to a place?
This cannot be; yet moved by your request,
A past I paint—let fancy form the rest."

—*Crabbe.*

LINLITHGOW.

LINLITHGOW—"The Windsor of Scotland," as it has been appropriately called by Lord Rosebery—is situated in a singularly healthy, romantic, and historic position."

The town of Linlithgow is remarkable for the salubrity of its atmosphere, the air being really a blend of hill and sea, and very bracing. The subsoil is sand and gravel. Though situated considerably above sea level it enjoys immunity from east and west winds to a very great extent.

Linlithgow's earliest Charter is dated 23rd October 1389, and granted by Robert II., a photographic copy of which may be seen hung in the Council Chambers.

Within recent years a large number of the older buildings have been demolished and replaced by more modern houses and shops. The town lies alongside the Loch or Lake which covers about 102 acres, and at its deepest part is about 50 feet deep. The Peel or Public Park in which the Palace stands contains 15½ acres of land. Within recent years a new gravitation Water Supply, chemically and bacteriologically of the purest has been introduced at a cost of £8000. The Drainage Scheme has just been completed and is on the Bacteriological principle, the Septic Tanks being situated at Jestinghaugh, about 1½ miles out of Linlithgow, and for those interested in such, would well repay a visit.

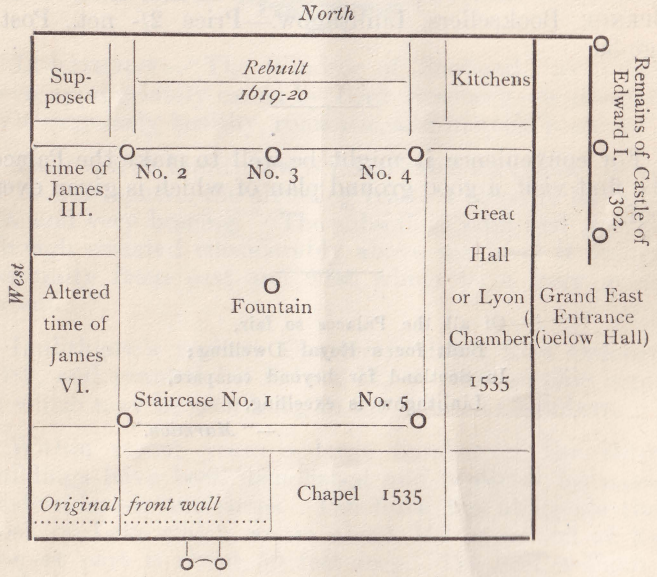
The Municipal affairs of the town are managed by a Town Council consisting of a Provost or Sheriff, 3 Bailies or Sheriffs, Treasurer, Dean of Guild and 9 Councillors, The first notice of Linlithgow which appears in the Records dates back to the time of David I. (1124-53), when it appears he had a castle here with a town lying beside it.

Those who wish for fuller information than can be given in a small guide should procure and consult "The HISTORY of LINLITHGOW" which can be had from C. M. SPENCE, Booksellers, Linlithgow.—Price 2/- net., Postage 3d.

For convenience it might be well to make the Palace the first visit, a good ground plan of which is given over leaf.

Of all the Palaces so fair,
Built for a Royal Dwelling;
In Scotland far beyond compare,
Linlithgow is excelling,

—"*Marmion.*"



General Plan of Principal Floor of Palace.

STARTING at the entrance, the reader will scan the interior of the Quadrangle or court of the Palace. Before him he sees the remains of the fine Fountain in the centre, erected by James V. about 1538, when he remodelled his birthplace (he was born here on 10th April 1512) in anticipation of his marriage

with the Princess Magdalene of France. This, and the Group of Sculpture over the east entrance, were the work of French artistes. The niches were filled with statues of a Pope to represent the Church; a Knight to represent the Gentry; and a Labouring Man to represent the Commons—these being what were in those times called "The Three Estates," the whole being under the protecting wings of the Archangel Michael, or St. Michael as he was called. The group over the south entrance was intended to represent the Salutation of the Virgin.

The side of the Court opposite the present entrance, it will be seen, is in quite a different style of architecture from the rest of the building. This arises from it having been rebuilt in 1619 and 1620, as the dates over the windows show. The old building had decayed, and the floors and roof fell in, in the year 1607. The appearance and arrangements of this side are quite modern in comparison with the rest of the Palace. The Earl of Linlithgow, who as Hereditary Keeper sometimes resided here, occupied these rooms.

The side of the Court to the west is much plainer than the others, and is of course the oldest. Some alterations may be observed on it—particularly the large window of the time of James VI., and the rather uncommon long window for lighting up the ceiling of one of the apartments.

The south side of the Court consists of a series of passages or corridors, one on each floor lighted by square-headed mullioned windows. The appearance of these corridors has been much injured internally by the introduction of masses of masonry to support the arching. One of the corridors has been appropriated for a Museum for storing fragments found in the ruins.

Best Way through the Palace.

The visitor is recommended to visit first the Great

Hall, called in the old records the Lyon Chamber, but commonly the Parliament Hall, access to which he will find by Staircase No. 4 of our Plan. From this staircase he can also inspect the interior of the north side, as well as the Kitchen in the corner, with its huge fireplace. There is a similar kitchen and fireplace immediately below, access to which he will most readily get by the staircase at the north-east corner of the Great Hall. The Hall itself, about 98 feet by 30 feet, must have been one of the finest apartments of its time, when hung with tapestry and lighted by windows filled with coloured glass. The great fireplace at the south end is the most prominent feature. A Passage Gallery runs along the inner side, and formerly there was a Music Gallery at the north end.

The Private Chapel lies on the south side of the Palace, quite close to the Great Hall. It is lighted by five long narrow windows, and ornamented with niches, now statueless. Some of the figures below are represented playing on musical instruments like the modern accordian—probably the old "hurdy-gurdy." The visitor will observe that there is evidence of this apartment having been roofed at three different elevations; and passing into the adjoining apartment he will find evidence that in the latest alterations made on this part of the Palace, an exterior wall has been built at the western half of this side to bring the Palace up to a square mass. This gives the appearance of great thickness to the front wall here.

Passing into the west side of the Palace, the visitor comes into what is shown as the room in which "Mary, Queen of Scots," was born on the 7th of December 1542. This apartment has been altered somewhat since her time, and the ceiling of it is lighted by three small windows above the ordinary ones. The next apartment preserves some portion of the old flooring in stone and brick,* and is lighted by round-headed windows, with

* The recent repairs on the Palace have unfortunately obliterated this old flooring.

a peculiar long narrow window to light up the ceiling. The floors of such apartments used to be strewn with rushes, herbs, and flowers, by way of carpets.

There is some fine groining in the apartments in the north-west corner, very much cut up, however, by alterations. The ornament on the bosses of the groining is a stag lying under a tree, and one or two of them have a motto—BELLE A VOUS LEULE—supposed to mean, *Sweet be your rising or waking.*

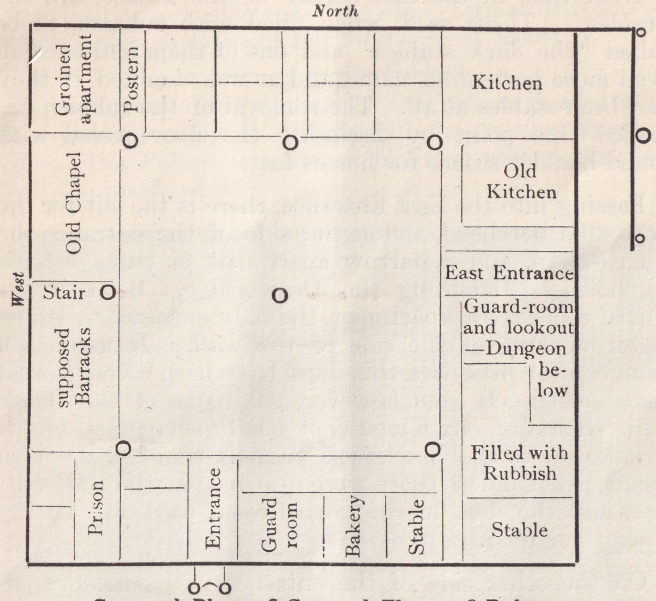
Here the visitor is advised to mount the spiral staircase to the little house on the top, known as Queen Margaret's Bower. The groining at the top of the newel of the stair is worth looking at, and the view from the bower at the top will repay the labour of mounting the stairs. This was possibly built by James IV., and the tradition, or legend rather regarding the Bower is, that Queen Margaret used to come up here and look out for the return of the King from the fatal Field of Flodden.

The View from the Tower.

A notable feature of the view is the Loch or Lake below, which covers fully 100 acres, and lies 150 feet above the level of the sea. It is divided into two nearly equal portions by the mound on which the Palace stands; and it is probably from this that the name is derived, as *lin-lith*, in old Celtic, would signify the double lake, or lake in two portions, *gow* meaning probably a hollow, or it may be a corruption of *ca* or *cae*, signifying a district, or an enclosure. On the opposite side of the loch, between it and the Firth of Forth, which is about three miles off, the ground rises to the height of 559 feet above the sea. The Monument on the top was erected after the Indian Mutiny to the memory of Brigadier-General the Honourable Adrian Hope, who fell at Rooeah, near Delhi. The hill is commonly called *Bonnytoun Hill*, and sometimes *Glower-o'er-em.* Visitors, if time permit, should take a walk to the top

of this height. It commands a magnificent view, including the great Railway Bridge over the Firth at Queensferry. A public footpath leads up to the old Roman road on the top of the hill. Another public footpath, on the north side of the loch, affords fine views of the Palace. Turning to the east, there is another monument-like structure visible about three miles off, on the top of an eminence, said by geologists to be the pipe of an old volcano. The *Binns*, as the hill is called, is 372 feet over sea-level, and marks the dwelling-place of the descendants of General Thomas Dalyell, who was Commander-in-Chief of the army in Scotland in the time of Charles II., after the Restoration, when the "persecutions" of the Covenanters were proceeding. Farther east, the view commands Arthur Seat, the south side of Edinburgh, and the Braid and Pentland Hills, as well as glimpses of the great Oil Works and the fine agricultural country between. To the south and west are the range of heights known as *Riccarton Hills Cocklerue* (911 feet), and west from this, *Bowden* (749 feet), on the latter of which is a remarkable old fortification of unknown antiquity. Westward are the large Viaducts of the Edinburgh and Glasgow, and Bo'ness and Monkland Railways. In the more immediate vicinity of the town, to the west, are the stalks of two Paper Mills, one on the outlet of the loch, and the other on the river Avon. To the east are the stalks of Nobel's Explosive Works and of St. Magdalene Distillery. These, besides Shoemaking, Tanning, Currying, and Glue-making, are the only manufactures of the place. The large houses east from the Distillery are Linlithgow Joint Fever Hospital, and Combination Poorhouse.

Coming down the stair now, all the way to the ground, the visitor can inspect the offices on the ground floor. Taking to the right hand, there are two apartments



General Plan of Ground Floor of Palace.

opening from the Court, the floor of the inner one of which is somewhat below ground, and the roof is of groined vaulting. The next series of apartments, which are well arched over, seems to have been used as cellars or stores, or possibly barracks for the guard, one of them communicating with Queen Mary's room by a concealed stair. The south-west corner is divided into small cells, and may have been used at some period as a prison.

Coming to the light once more, and turning into the entrance is the Guard-room. Next, entering from the corridor is the Bakery with its oven quite entire in the

wall of the Palace. It seems to be one of the sort of ovens which were first thoroughly heated, the fire being withdrawn before the food was introduced for baking.

Next this, in the east corner of the Palace, are the Stables. These used, when filled with rubbish, to be called "the dark stables," and one of them had once an even more portentous name, and it was doubted if they had been stables at all. The romoval of the rubbish has settled this point by disclosing the floor paved with round boulder stones for horses feet.

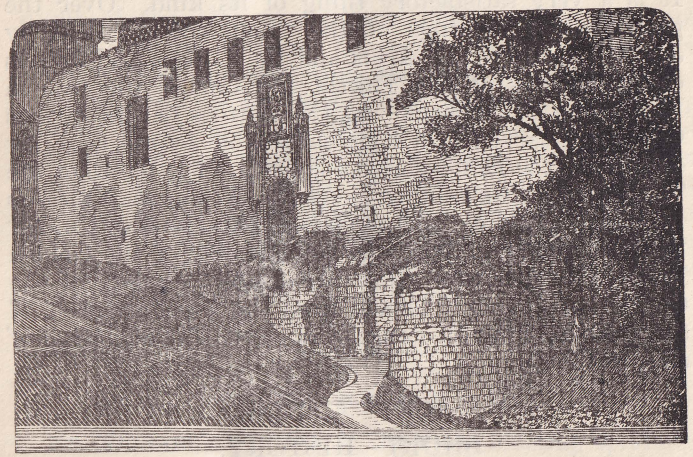
Passing into the East Entrance, there is the slit for the Portcullis overhead, and at the side of the entrance the Guard-room, and a narrow apartment or passage with loopholes commanding the Drawbridge. Beneath the Guard-room is an apartment, the only entrance to which is an opening at the side of the wall. If used as a Dungeon for prisoners, this must have been a very horrid place indeed. It gets however, the name of the Lion's Den. Some of our Kings kept small menageries, but it is not easy to see how these animals could be kept in such a place, unless there were gratings in the wall outside, and the hole in the Guard-room used for letting down their food.

On the other side of the entrance is a passage communicating with the Lower Kitchen. The apartments between this and the kitchen seem to have been left in ruins and unused after the formation of the Great Hall above, there being great fireplaces left with no possible exit for the smoke.

If the visitor be not satisfied with this round of the Palace, there is plenty more to be seen. The tops of all the staircases but one can be reached, and there are roads on the battlements and tops of the walls, and some people would not think they had done their duty unless they had been over them all. They can safely be left to their own guidence in this case.

The small Museum already alluded to contains some fragments of Old Plaster and Iron Work, very much decayed ; a number of Floor Tiles with Monograms, and a quantity of Carved Stones of various dates. Chief of these is a large Head from over some former gateway—possibly that of Edward the First's great castle.

A walk round the outside of the Palace is advisable. Taking to the right, the visitor will observe that the west side of the Palace is quite as plain, or rather more so, than the inside of it.



Some ornamental work there is in the windows of the north-west corner. The north side is very plain, but lightened by the numerous and regularly disposed windows. At the north-east corner, and outside of the square bulk of the Palace, are the fragments of three Round Towers, quite out of keeping with the Palace, and evidently—the stone even being different—belonging to some preceding building. They have been made use of as supports to three flying buttresses supporting the wall of the Palace, which owing to the sloping of the ground, is here very high.

The Ornamentation over the East Entrance here consists of the Royal Arms, supported by Angels and over-shadowed by St. Michael. The five windows of the Private Chapel, and the Entrance Porch, are the only features of the south exterior calling for remark. Such windows are uncommon, and the porch took the fancy of Sir Walter Scott, who took the pattern for the porch at Abbotsford from it.

The Gun in front of the Palace is from Bomarsund, a relic and memorial of the Crimean War. The gateway at the top of the Kirkgate was erected by James V. It is a very satisfactory thing of its kind. Over the gate are the carvings of the "four orders" held by James V., that is, the Arms and the Collars and Jewels of the Orders of the Thistle, the Garter, the Golden Fleece, and St. Michael. As the mottoes of the various Orders are carved in a style unreadable by the majority of visitors, the mottoes are subjoined:—The motto of the Thistle, NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT: *No one shall meddle me with impunity;* of the Garter, HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE: *Evil be to him who evil thinks;* of the Golden Fleece, PRÆTIUM NON VILE: *No ignoble reward;* of the Cockle, as commonly named from the jewel attached, of St. Michael, TREMOR IMMENSI OCEANI: *The troubling of the great deep.*

SHORT HISTORY.

The earliest notice known of the Palace occurs about 800 years ago, shortly after the Lothians were added to the kingdom of Scotland, when it appears as one of the King's manor-houses. Whether the town existed before this or not is not known, but it soon grew up, and by the time of the wars of Wallace and Bruce with the English Edwards, it was one of the principal burghs of the country, with its seaport at Blackness. When Edward I. held the country he converted the manor-house, church and church-yard into a fort, bounded on three sides by the Loch, and on the fourth side by a

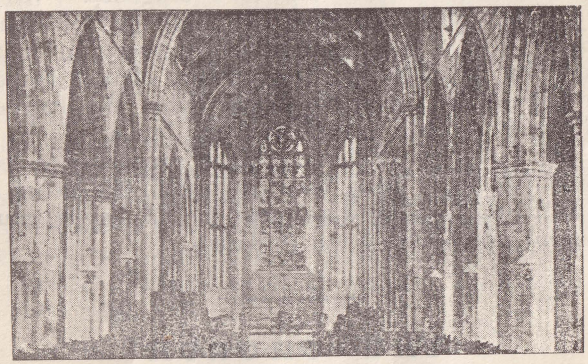
dry ditch and palisade. This was taken from the English by the stratagem of Binnock, a farmer, in the early days of Robert the Bruce. It served as a half-way house between Edinburgh and Stirling. After this the manor-house was occupied more or less by all the Kings, who added to or altered it from time to time to suit themselves. Much of the building was executed by James IV. and V. during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the choir being finished in 1540. We have already noticed some of these alterations and rebuildings; and the reader will be aware that the Palace was burned in 1746. Linlithgow Palace was not destroyed on the night of the 17th of January 1746; and it was not set on fire by General Hawley's dragoons. We are sorry to take the edge from the "high-spirited dame's" sarcasm; but all the same it is necessary in writing history to be accurate. The soldiers of the Duke of Cumberland had slept on straw within the Palace of Linlithgow on the night of 31st January. In the morning of the 1st February, when preparing to leave, they had in their haste been careless in the use of fire, and shortly after they were gone, the fire having caught the straw, the building was in flames.

THE CHURCH

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH is the finest existing specimen of the ancient Parochial Churches of Scotland. It was never a Cathedral, nor even a Collegiate Church, though, it had before the Reformation a numerous staff of clergy attached to it.

The present Church is the third which has occupied the same site. The first Church was burned in 1242; the second, which was used as a granary by Edward I. of England, when attempting to conquer Scotland, was burned in 1424; the present one, which probably contains at the east end portions of the second Church, was built at a later date.

The Church is cruciform, and measures 180 feet from east to west, and 62 from north to south. Across the transepts it is 105 feet. It consists of an aisled chancel of three bays ; and a nave, also aisled, of five bays. Two chapels, north and south, serve as transepts. A triforium runs along both sides, but is open only in the nave. Above the triforium is a cleristory, though somewhat dwarfed by the present ceiling being lower than the original one, and lower than it ought to be. At the east end is a beautiful trigonal apse, said to have been built by George Crichton, the last of the Bishops of Dunkeld.



The south transept was the scene of the vision which appeared to James IV. before the battle of Flodden, of which Sir Walter Scott has made use in *Marmion*.

All the stained windows, with the exception of that in the apse, were presented to the Church during, or have been presented to it since, the Restoration in 1895-6.

The vestry, which is new, having been built during the above Restoration, contains a few ancient carved stones, the most interesting of which is a panel of the pre-Reformation altar.

The finest view of the Church is from the west porch.

A full history of this Church and of its numerous chantries, was published by the late Rev. Dr. Ferguson, minister of the parish, which may be had from C. M. SPENCE, Booksellers, Cross, Linlithgow.

THE COUNTY HALL

A set of rooms built by subscription, situated in the Kirkgate, contains a large room decorated with a painting of Raeburn, of General Sir John Hope (afterwards Earl of Hopetoun); one of his brother's, General Sir Alexander Hope, by Sir John Watson Gordon; one of the Earl of Rosebery, by J. R. Swinton, of London ; and two presented by the late Admiral Sir James Hope, of the ship "Romulus," commanded by his father, Admiral Sir George Hope. There is also a replica of the presentation portrait by Robert Brough, A.R.S.A., of the late Marquis of Linlithgow.

THE OLD TOWN HALL

At foot of the Kirkgate, contains Town Hall, Council Chamber, and Burgh Court Room. The building was erected originally in 1668-70, from a design by Robert Mylne, the King's Master Mason or Architect, after the Restoration. It had originally a flat roof, and a balustrade round the top, like that on the steeple, and has a double outside staircase in front. In the Council Chamber there is a small Museum of Burgh Antiquities, comprising :—

1 to 7. Set of Bronze Stirling Liquid Measures, viz.:—Pint, Chopin, Mutchkin, Half-mutchkin, Gill, Half-gill, and Quarter-Gill.

8. Copper Stirling Pint, adjusted in Stirling on the 2nd day of November 1791, by Henry Jaffray, Provost of Stirling, and James Andrew, Provost of Linlithgow, conform to Act James VI., 19th February, 1618.

9 to 15, Branding Irons for the Linlithgow Firlot, viz.:—2 with Burgh Arms, 1 with Crown, 1 with letters D.G., 1 with "Barley Measure," 1 with letter "H," for Firlot of Malt, Beer, and Oats, and 1 with "Linlithgow."

16 to 18. Three Imperial Bronze Bushel Measures, 1707.

19 to 29. 56 lbs. 14 lbs., 8 lbs., 4 lbs., 2 lbs., 1 lb., 8 oz., 4 oz., 2 oz., 1 oz., and 8 drs., Weights Imperial, 1707.

30 to 41. 16 lbs (stone), 8 lbs., 4 lbs., 2 lbs., 1 lb., 8 oz., 4 oz., 2 oz., 1 oz., ½ oz., ¼ oz., 1/16 oz., Old Scots Standard, or Lanark Weights.

42. Lanark Dutch Stone Weight.

43. Wine Gallon Measure, 1707.

44 to 46. Ale Gallon Measures, Quart and Pint, 1707.

47. Hand of Old Town Clock, destroyed by fire in 1847.

48. Weather Cock of the Old Steeple, burnt down in 1847.

49. Sword found on the Battlefield of Linlithgow-bridge, where the Earl of Lennox was slain. The Sword bears the Motto, Pono Leges Virtute.

50. Head of an Ancient Iron Battle-Axe or Pole-Axe, found near Borrowstounness, presented by James Martin, Bo'ness.

51. Old Basket-hilted Sword.

52. Old Cavalry Sword.

53. Padlock of Old Burgh Gaol.

54. Old Tile from Brockley's Land (Site of Victoria Hall).

55. Piece of Lead Pipe of Old Water Supply leading to the Palace.

56. Bronze Bedesman's Badge of "The Poor of Linlithgow Paroch, 1698," presented by W. H. Henderson, Esq., P.F., Linlithgow.

57. Portrait in Oils by Martin, of Dr. Henry, the Historian, who left his Library to the Burgh and Presbytery of Linlithgow.

58. Photograph of proposed renovation of the Interior of the Church, by the late Mr Matheson.

59. Replica of Portrait in Oils presented by the Town Council to Provost Gilmour in 1895.

60. Portrait in Oils of Mr. John Charles Whitten, Sheriff-Clerk, Edinburgh.

61. Old Oilpainting above Mantelpiece. Subject:—"The Pursuit of Daphne by Apollo."

62. Old Oilpainting above Entrance Door. Subject:—"Rustic Scene."

63. Genealogical Tree of the Royal Family of Scotland.

64. Engraving of view of house in High Street from which Regent Murray was shot, presented by the family of the late Robert Spence, Esq., M.D., J.P., Bailie of the Burgh.

65. Photograph of Charter by Robert II., in favour of the Burgh, dated 23rd October, 1389, presented by Mr. John Ferguson, Town Clerk.

66 & 67. Slezer's Views of the Town and Palace of Linlithgow, presented by Mr. Thomas Dodds, Solicitor, Bathgate.

68 & 69. Two Photographs of the Casket presented by the Burgh to the Earl of Rosebery, on the occasion of his admission as a Burgess and Freeman of the Burgh, on 5th April, 1886.

70. Photograph taken at the Palace on the occasion of the presentation to Lord Rosebery.

71. Photograph of Arch erected at the East End of the Burgh on the same occasion.

72. Photograph of Address presented by the Burgh to Robert Jamieson, Esq., Honorary Treasurer, January, 1901.

73. Photograph of Address presented by the Burgh to the Most Honourable the Marquis of Linlithgow, on 27th November, 1902.

74 Photograph taken at the laying of the Foundation Stone of Anderson's Academy, Bo'ness, on 12th June, 1869.

75. Photograph of Members of Town Council and Officials, taken on 9th August, 1902.

76 & 77, Photographs taken in Linlithgow Palace on the Marches Day, 1885 and 1894.

78. Photograph taken at Palace on the occasion of the presentation of the Freedom of the Burgh to the Earl of Hopetoun, in 1889.

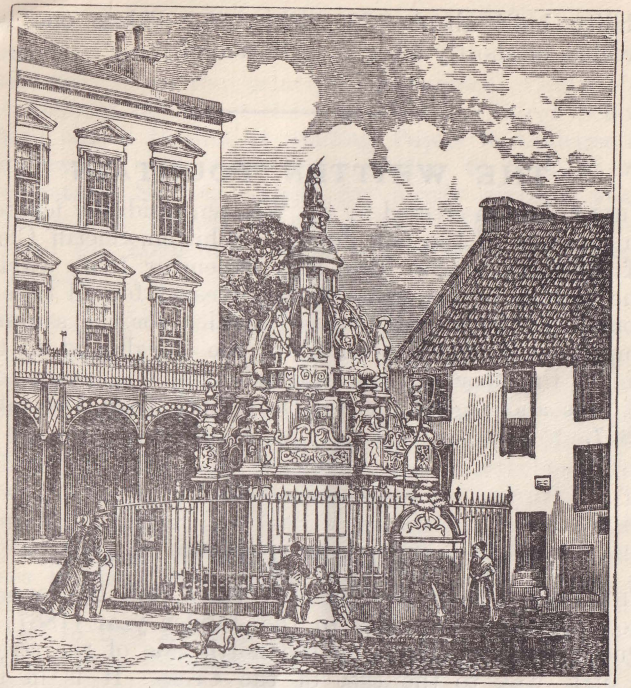
79. Plan of the Burgh—Scale, 6 inches to 1 mile—shewing Parliamentary Boundaries, circa, 1835.

And also contains a Collection of articles known as the "Dawson Collection," of which a separate Catalogue is published, and may be obtained at C. M. Spence's, 67 High Street (Cross).

St. MICHAEL'S WELL

Linlithgow lying in a hollow beside slopes which abound in springs, has several copious public fountains in the principal street, particularly one near the East Port, with a figure of "St. Michael" the patron saint of the town over it, and the inscription:—"St. Michael is kind to Strangers;" having evidently been designed for the refreshment of weary travellers.

Another is of very complicated and rather elegant architecture with many quaint figures carved in stone—being the substitute and facsimile of a previous structure.



THE CROSS WELL

THE present one was built in 1807. The cost was about £500. It is a copy of an older one (1650), which was a copy of a still older one (1628), which in all probability was altered from the original in some points, that is, it was raised upon a pedestal, and so made unfit to dip out of, as such fountains were originally intended for, and the character of the architectural ornament altered to something like what it is now. It bears the following inscription:—"This well, in imitation of the ancient Cross Well of Linlithgow, was founded upon the 4th June 1807 (the anniversary of the birth of King George III.), and executed by Robert Gray, stonemason, Edinburgh." The original Fountain was in all prob-

ability built about 1539, when the Palace one was erected, or shortly after, in imitation of it.

THE WHITTEN FOUNTAIN

THIS Fountain erected by the Whitten residuary legatees in memory of the late John C. Whitten, Sheriff Clerk of Midlothian, who died 10th December 1889, leaving the residue of his estate to be invested for all time to come and the interest thereof applied for the sanitary improvement and adornment of the Burgh and to the aid of the poor and unemployed in severe seasons out of love and regard for the Dear Auld Toon, December 1897.

THE JUBILEE TOWN HALL

THE Jubilee Town Hall, or New Town Hall, the foundation of which was laid in the Jubilee year (1887) of Queen Victoria, stands on the north side of the street, a little way to the east of the Cross. It is in the Scottish Baronial style of architecture, from designs by Mr Russell Walker, Edinburgh. A Tablet in the lobby of the Hall records the handsome gift of the site on which it is built.

MASONIC TEMPLE

THE Temple, built by the Ancient Lodge of Linlithgow in 1906, adjoins the Town House on the Eastern side, the site having formerly been the old Fleshmarket. The Lodge is of great antiquity, and possesses a number of Old Masonic relics much admired by Members of the Craft.

LINLITHGOW ACADEMY

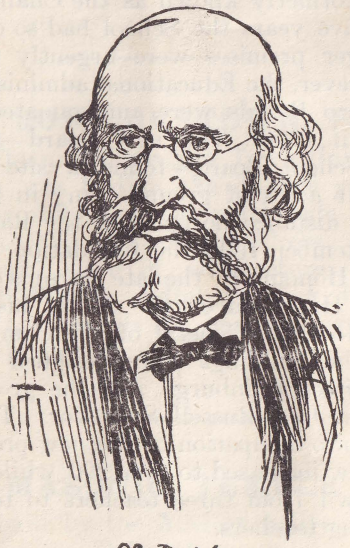
FOR over six centuries Linlithgow Grammar School continued to be the principal Educational Centre for the District, but about the year 1878 the Burgh School Board ceased to aim at sending Pupils to Colleges or Universities, and reduced its status to that of an Elementary School. Then for nearly sixteen years parents who wished to have their children educated beyond the Elementary stage sent them to Edinburgh or Falkirk.

To remedy this defect, the Burgh and the Parish School Boards united in 1884 for purposes of Secondary Education, and opened a Secondary School, styled Linlithgow Academy, in a small building at the west end of the town, formerly known as the Chalmers Memorial School. In five years the School had so developed that new and larger premises were urgently required. To simplify, however, the Educational administration of the Parish, the two Boards were amalgamated for all purposes in April 1900. The new Board—the Parish of Linlithgow School Board—found a site for the new School in four acres of ground lying in the Blackness Road, a little distance north from the Railway Station. There in September 1900, the foundation stone was laid with Masonic Honours by the late Marquis of Linlithgow, then Earl of Hopetoun, on the eve of his departure to act as first Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. The buildings were designed by Mr. John Fairley, Architect, Edinburgh, and the grounds laid out by the late Mr. John Russell, Surveyor. The 100 pupils who entered into occupation of the new premises in May 1902, have now increased to over 200, while the teaching staff has grown from three teachers to ten permanent and six visiting teachers.

On 26th June 1920, a Memorial Tablet to commemorate the Former Pupils who fell in the Great War was unveiled by Lieut.-Gen. Sir F. Davies, G.O.C. the Forces in Scotland.

THE REGENT MURRAY TABLET

A FINE Bronze Tablet, in relief, of the Regent Murray, designed by Sir Noel Paton, and modelled by his sister, Mrs. D. O. Hill, is set in the front wall of the County Court Buildings, which stand to the west of the Cross, on the opposite side of the street. The house, from the gallery of which the Regent was shot in the year 1570, on his way from Stirling to Edinburgh with an armed force, has long since been taken down, and the site on which it stood is now enclosed within the railing which fronts the County Court Buildings. That part of the street nearly opposite the west corner of the buildings, and ten yards west from the Tablet, is pointed out as the spot where the Regent fell.

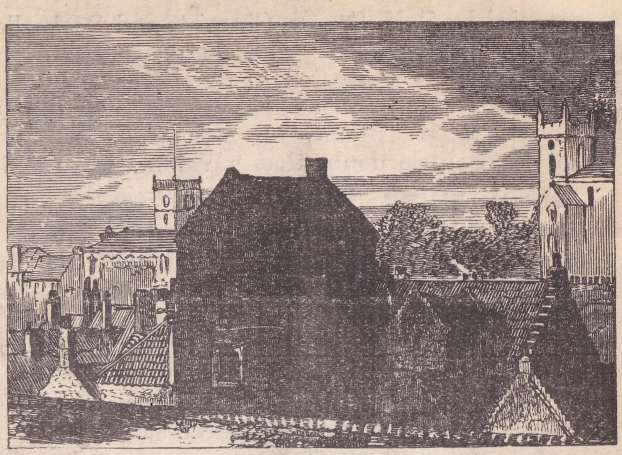


DR D. WALDIE.

We give a portrait of Dr. David Waldie of Linlithgow, who for many years carried on a Chemist and Bookselling business in premises at 67 High Street (Cross),

now occupied by C. M. Spence, Chemists and Booksellers. It was Dr. David Waldie who, in conversation with Professor Simpson, suggested to the latter the use of "Chloroform." He recommended the Professor to try it as an anæsthetic, and promised to make some for him.

There seems little doubt that "Waldie" was the first to suggest the use of chloroform as an anæsthetic to Professor Simpson, who at once resolved to try it by experimenting on himself and his assistants. He made the first experiment in his own house on November 4th, 1847, and in a letter to Waldie thus describes the event—"I am sure you will be delighted to see part of the good results of our hasty conversation. I had the chloroform for several days in the house before trying it, as, after seeing it such a heavy, unvolatile-like substance, I despaired of it, and went on dreaming about others. The first night we took it, Dr. Duncan, Dr. Keith, and I, all tried it simultaneously, and were all under the table 'in a minute or two.'"



Old Tower near Railway Station now taken down.

Amateur Photographers can secure, besides the subjects already mentioned, numerous items of interest in the High Street, such as St. Michael's Well, with its legend, "St. Michael is kinde to Strangers," and numerous ancient buildings. In the immediate vicinity there is Blackness Castle and Binns Tower. Other historical ruins are Niddrie Castle, Hainning Castle and at the side of the River Avon an old ivy-clad ruin of an Old Carmelite Priory. There is also a fine glen—Carriber Glen—with the ruins of Rab Gibb's Castle, and a cottage near by with Rab Gibb's Coat of Arms on the wall. A splendid Aqueduct on the River Avon over which runs the Union Canal; a Viaduct over which the N.B. Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway passes; Torphichen Priory, remains of Roman Fortifications; Monument on Bonnytoun Hill; and lovely landscapes, interesting, historically, and photographically.